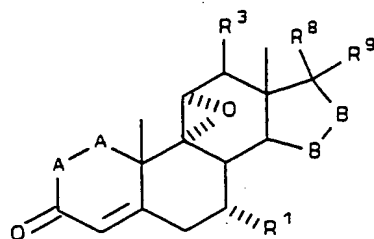


PROCESSES FOR PREPARATION OF 9,11-EPOXY  
STERIODS AND INTERMEDIATES USEFUL THEREIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

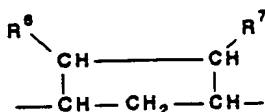
Multiple novel reaction schemes, novel process  
steps and novel intermediates are provided for the  
5 synthesis of epoxymexrenone and other compounds of  
Formula I



I

wherein:

-A-A- represents the group  $-\text{CHR}^4-\text{CHR}^5-$  or  $-\text{CR}^4=\text{CR}^5-$   
10  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^5$  are independently selected from  
the group consisting of hydrogen, halo,  
hydroxy, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy,  
hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl,  
15 cyano, aryloxy,  
 $\text{R}^1$  represents an alpha-oriented lower  
alkoxycarbonyl or hydroxyalkyl radical,  
-B-B- represents the group  $-\text{CHR}^6-\text{CHR}^7-$  or an  
alpha- or beta- oriented group:



III

20

where  $\text{R}^6$  and  $\text{R}^7$  are independently selected from  
the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower  
alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl,  
hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl,  
25 acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, and

25

30

$R^8$  and  $R^9$  are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo, lower alkoxy, acyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxycarbonyl, alkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, acyloxyalkyl, cyano, aryloxy, or  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  together comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure, or  $R^8$  or  $R^9$  together with  $R^6$  or  $R^7$  comprise a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring structure fused to the pentacyclic D ring.